

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The procedure of the invention calculates a tentative engine revolution speed $Netmp1$ that satisfies both restriction to a driving force demand for a smooth change of a driving force acting on a drive shaft in response to a driver's accelerator-off action subsequent to the driver's accelerator-on action and a discharge limit $Wout$ of a battery. The procedure also calculates a smoothed engine revolution speed $Netmp3$ for a smooth change of a revolution speed of an engine. The procedure sets the smaller between the tentative engine revolution speed $Netmp1$ and the smoothed engine revolution speed $Netmp3$ to a target revolution speed Ne^* of the engine (step S116) and controls the engine and two motors with such setting. In response to the driver's accelerator-off action, this arrangement ensures a relatively smooth change of the revolution speed of the engine, while attaining a smooth change of the driving force applied to the drive shaft under the restriction of the discharge limit $Wout$ of the battery.